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Washington LABOR MARKET

January 1987

Washington State
Employment Security

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Employment and Training
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U.S. Department of Labor

Highlights

Seasonal Job Losses Outweigh Gains

Deteriorating weather conditions and little tourist activity resulted in employment reductions in several industries in December. Losses were partially offset by the hiring of thousands of temporary sales workers in retail trade for the holiday shopping period. As usual in December, however, the seasonal losses outweighed the seasonal gains, and total employment fell 12,500 from November.

The major job losses occurred in agriculture, food processing, construction, wholesale trade, and public education. Nonagricultural wage and salary employment accounted for 4,600 of the loss including a drop of 2,600 in manufacturing. Food and kindred products alone fell 1,500 to account for over one-half of the drop in manufacturing; most food processors were operating near their annual lows in December as usual. Other significant changes in manufacturing included reductions in lumber (off 300), fabricated metal products (off 400) and

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	Dec. 1986* (Prel.)	Nov. 1986* (Rev.)	Dec. 1985
Civilian Labor Force	2,211,600	2,215,700	2,115,400
Total Employment	2,029,300	2,041,800	1,939,200
Total Unemployment	182,300	173,900	176,200
State Unemployment Rate	8.2	7.8	8.3
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	6.3	6.6	6.7

*These data represent alternative estimates of labor force conditions developed by the State Employment Security Department. They are more comparable with data released in previous years than are the official Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates developed for federal program purposes. (Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.)

"other transportation equipment" (off 400). The loss in lumber was less than seasonally expected and occurred entirely in logging. Over the same period last year lumber employment fell 1,200. Fabricated metals was down because of a seasonal decline in demand from the construction industry and lower demand for metal containers from the canning and beverage industries. The loss in "other transportation equipment" resulted entirely from a labor-management dispute in shipbuilding; boatbuilding, largely for the recreation market, picked up slightly.

Santa's Helpers On The Job

In the nonmanufacturing industries, retail trade moved up 3,800 with holiday shopping in full swing. Services employment rose 1,200; medical services moved up 800, while seasonal hiring at ski resorts added 300 more jobs. Employment in most other nonmanufacturing industries declined in December. Construction fell 2,900 because of inclement weather, while public education payrolls were down 2,200 with some colleges between fall and winter terms. Wholesale trade employment dipped 900 in December because of less packing and shipping activity at fruit and vegetable warehouses.

More Nonmanufacturing Jobs This Year

An over-the-year comparison of employment conditions in the state contrasts sharply with the November-December decline. Year to year, nonfarm wage and salary employment in the state was up 43,900, or 2.5 percent, in December. Nonfarm payroll employment was also up 2.5 percent over the year in the nation in

December. As in the nation, job growth was largely confined to the nonmanufacturing industries. In Washington State, manufacturing employment rose only 700, or two-tenths of one percent, over the year, while manufacturing payrolls declined slightly in the nation over the year. The major weakness in manufacturing in both the state and nation, of course, is the result of foreign competition. Consumer demand has been exceptionally strong.

Aerospace up 9.5 Percent Over the Year

Fortunately for Washington State, aerospace has weathered foreign competition well. Employment in the industry rose 7,600 in 1986, or 9.5 percent, to more than offset losses in other manufacturing industries. The only other year-to-year gains in manufacturing were relatively small. Miscellaneous manufacturing added 400, other nondurable goods added 200 with growth in plastics manufacturing, while pulp and paper added 200. The gain in the latter, though small, is encouraging since it resulted from growth in exports following the decline in the value of the dollar relative to foreign currencies.

Offsetting most of the growth in manufacturing over the year were losses of 3,400 in machinery, 700 in primary metals (mainly aluminum), 900 in "other transportation equipment" (mainly shipbuilding) 900 in instruments, 500 in food products and 400 in chemicals. In all of these industries except food products and chemicals, the year-to-year losses were at least partially due to foreign competition. Food products has been declining because of plant consolidation and increasing automation. The drop in chemicals was almost entirely at Hanford.

Service Jobs Expand Briskly

In contrast to manufacturing, job growth has been brisk in the nonmanufacturing industries over the year. Employment in the services group led the expansion with a gain of 19,200 to account for nearly 44 percent of the increase in nonfarm payrolls. The largest gain in the services group occurred in business services, especially personnel supply agencies, data processing, protective services and consulting. Business services itself added 5,100 workers over the year and was closely followed by medical services which added 4,900. Growth at clinics helping clients to stop using tobacco, alcohol and drugs has been especially strong.

Imports Help Retail Trade

Retail trade added 7,800 jobs over the year. Paradoxically, low-cost foreign imports, which have lowered demand and employment in many of the nation's manufacturing industries, have to a large extent fueled the growth in retail trade. Employment at auto dealerships also increased over the year because of

financing incentives offered to new car purchasers and because 1986 is the last year sales taxes can be deducted on income tax returns.

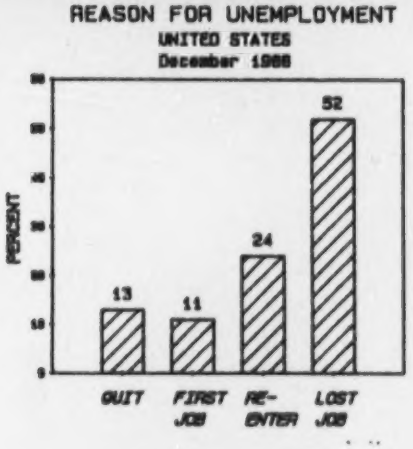
In other nonmanufacturing industries, construction employment rose 3,500 over the year as lower mortgage rates prompted an increase in housing starts. The weather in December 1986 was also milder than in December 1985, which permitted more outdoor work to continue. Finance, insurance and real estate added 4,700 employees between December 1985 and 1986. Rising home sales resulted in more home loan and insurance business, while lower mortgage rates prompted many home owners to refinance existing mortgages. Adding to the job growth in nonmanufacturing, public education payrolls rose 3,100 over the year because of rising enrollments in elementary grades--the "baby boom echo."

Unemployment Up Seasonally

Reflecting the overall decline in employment over the month, total unemployment in Washington State rose from 173,900 and 7.8 percent of the labor force in November to 182,300 and 8.2 percent in December. The increase, however, was no more than seasonally expected and the seasonally adjusted rate remained unchanged at 7.9 percent. The national seasonally adjusted rate was 6.7 percent in December, slightly more than one percentage point higher than the rate in this state. The spread between the state and national unemployment rates is about normal and reflects the larger proportion of employment in this state which is subject to periodic layoffs such as construction, lumber, food processing and agriculture. The fact that Washington State attracts residents from other states also adds to the spread since the immigration increases competition for jobs.

Characteristics of the Unemployed

Data from the national household survey provides insights on the unemployment situation which are not available on the state level. (Monthly data on the characteristics of the unemployed from that portion of the national survey conducted in Washington State are not reliable because of the small sample size.) For example, while the overall seasonally adjusted rate for civilians in the nation was 6.7 percent in December, the rates for adult men and women were 6.0 and 5.9 percent, respectively, while the rate for teenagers (16-19) was 17.3 percent. The rate for white people was 5.8 percent, while rates for blacks and Hispanics were 13.7 and 10.5 percent, respectively. About 17 percent of those unemployed in December were teenagers (16-19), 47 percent were adult men and 36 percent were adult women.



Unemployment rates varied substantially by marital and family status. Rates for married men and women (spouse present) were 4.3 and 4.8 percent, respectively, but the rate for women who maintained families was 9.8 percent. About 53 percent of the unemployed persons in the nation had lost their last job, temporarily or permanently, while about 13 percent had quit their last job. About 24 percent were reentering the labor force after an absence due to illness, education family responsibilities or other reasons. Almost 11 percent were looking for their first job.

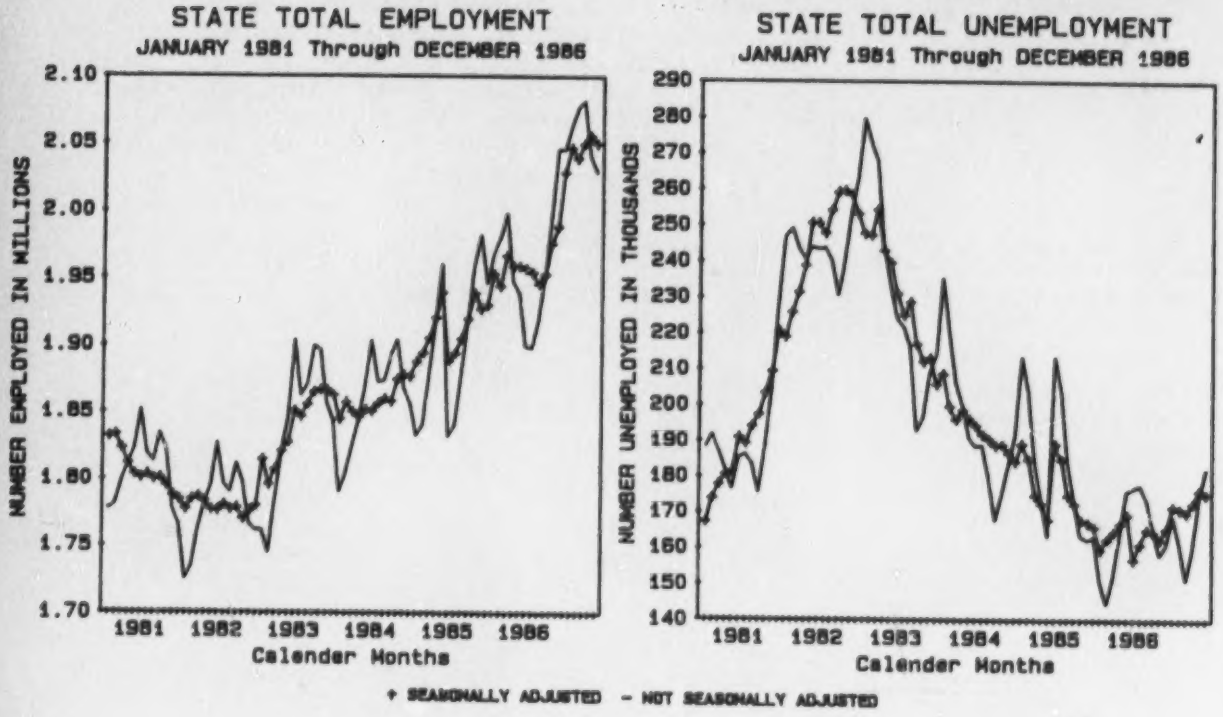
Increase In Unemployment Centered in Eastern Washington

As usual unemployment increased more in Eastern Washington than Western Washington in December, and most of the added unemployment west of the Cascades was in the nonmetropolitan counties. Job losses in December mainly occurred in agriculture, food processing and outdoor employment such as construction and logging. Agriculture and food processing, of course, accounts for a much larger share of the economy in Eastern Washington than on the west side of the state. In addition, winter weather is more severe in Eastern Washington resulting in a relatively greater reduction in outdoor work than is the case in Western Washington.

While the overall state jobless rate rose from 7.8 to 8.2 percent between November and December, the rate east of the Cascades jumped from 10.0 to 11.4 percent. By contrast, the rate in Western Washington edged up only one-tenth of a point to 7.3 percent. Unemployment rates in the metropolitan areas in the central and southern Puget Sound area showed little change over the month as the temporary hiring of holiday workers in retail trade offset losses in construction and other outdoor work. Unemployment rates in most rural western counties dominated by the lumber industry, however, generally rose. The holiday expansion in retail trade is not as great in these areas; many of the residents in rural areas do much of their holiday shopping in nearby metropolitan areas.

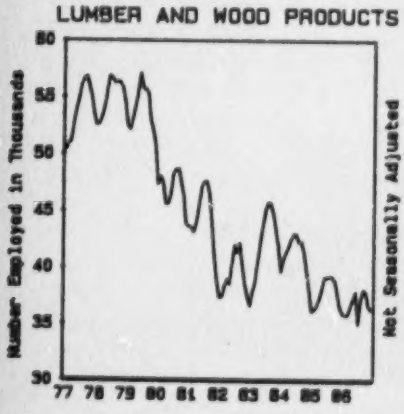
Seattle's Unemployment Rate at 6.2 Percent

In central and lower Puget Sound, the unemployment rate in the Seattle Metropolitan Area edged up from 6.1 to 6.2 percent, while rates in the Bremerton and Tacoma metropolitan areas remained unchanged at 5.9 and 8.5 percent, respectively. The Olympia Metropolitan Area saw its rate slip from 8.0 to 7.8 percent. In Eastern Washington the picture was different. Unemployment in the Yakima Metropolitan Area rose from 12.9 to 15.0 percent over the month. The rate in Walla Walla County jumped from 9.7 to 11.9 percent, while the unemployment rate in the more diversified Spokane area moved up from 7.9 to 8.5 percent.



MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Lumber Employment Falls Less Than Seasonally



Lumber employment dipped 300 between November and December. Relatively mild weather in Western Washington helped prevent a larger loss. Nonetheless the drop was one of the smallest on record for December. All of the loss that did occur was in logging. Sawmills and other segments of the industry posted small gains over the month.

Over-the-year lumber employment was down only 100 in December. Employment in the industry may now be stabilizing after dropping 33 percent from 1978. The recent agreement with Canada, which will raise the price of their lumber exported to the U.S. by 15 percent, should help U.S. producers. The value of the Canadian dollar has also been increasing relative to the U.S. dollar recently, which will also help sales of domestically produced lumber.

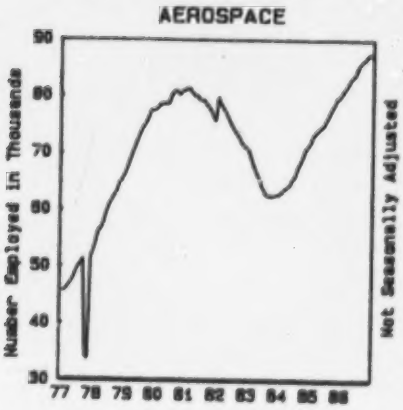
Plant to Reopen

The old Weyerhaeuser Columbia River mill in Longview is scheduled to be reopened by Gardner Forest Products in February. The mill will initially employ 35 to 40 workers, but its employment may expand to 88 in the

next two years. Financing for the plant was provided by the state's Development Loan Fund, which is administered by the Department of Community Development. The plant will produce both lumber and chips.

Aerospace Employment Stable Over the Month

Aerospace employment was unchanged between November and December bringing three years of consecutive monthly increases to a close. Over the year, however, aerospace employment was up 7,600, and since the beginning of its latest expansion in November 1983, aerospace payrolls have increased 24,700, or nearly 40 percent.



Growth in aerospace employment is expected to slow in 1987. Boeing's huge order backlog, however, should keep its workforce at a high level into the 1990s. Boeing's sales rose almost 20 percent from 1985 to total $16.34 billion in 1986, but they anticipate a ten percent decline in sales in 1987 because of less military and space revenue.

Commercial aircraft orders are expected to remain strong in 1987, although down from 1986. One analyst noted that orders in the last two years have been almost entirely for expansion and that replacement planes will be needed for older jets soon. A Boeing spokesman said that with the nation's airports rapidly approaching saturation in the number of planes landing and taking off, airlines will need to begin replacing smaller aircraft with larger ones to keep up with traffic growth. Boeing has estimated the value of the commercial airplane market at $255 billion between now and the turn of the century. Competition among manufacturers, however, will be strong.

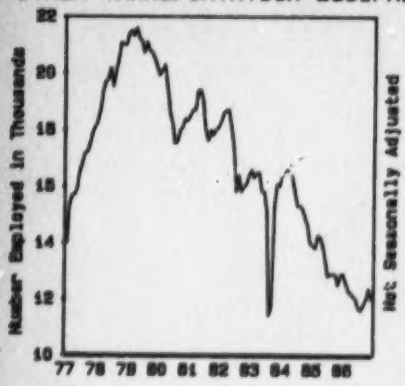
More Job Losses In Aluminum

Aluminum employment fell 100 in December and was down 600 over the year. Unfortunately more job losses are in the offing. Foreign competition has kept aluminum prices exceptionally low, unfortunately lower than the cost of production at some Northwest aluminum smelters. ALCOA closed its Vancouver smelter in the summer of 1986, but the plant is scheduled to be reopened by a new firm sometime in 1987. In the meantime, however, aluminum employment will drop further. Commonwealth Aluminum is closing its Goldendale plant, while Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corp. announced that it would lay off 300 workers at its Trentwood rolling mill.

Shipbuilding Down
Boatbuilding Up

"Other transportation equipment" dropped 400 in December because of a labor-management dispute and was down 900 over the year. The year-to-year drop represents only a minor portion of the industries decline in recent years. Since December 1981,

OTHER TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT

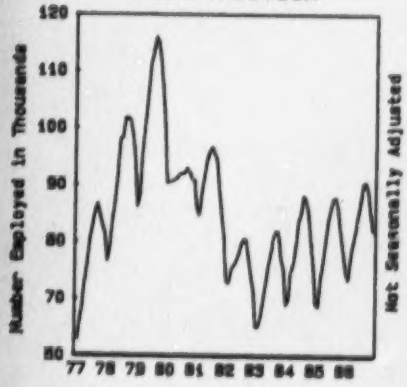


employment in the industry has dropped 6,100, or nearly one-third, because of competition from shipyards elsewhere in this country and abroad which pay lower wages and because of a worldwide oversupply of merchant ships. While shipbuilding employment has declined over the past several years, boatbuilding employment has increased because of rising demand for pleasure craft. The loss in shipbuilding, though, far exceeds the gain in boatbuilding. Between 1981 and 1986, shipbuilding employment fell 6,300, or nearly 60 percent, while boatbuilding employment rose 1,000, or 36 percent.

NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

1987 Outlook For Construction Uncertain

CONSTRUCTION



The decline in construction employment in December (2,900) was moderate but so was the weather, which allowed some projects to continue that would have been forced to shut down in other years. The outlook for construction in 1987 remains questionable. Nationally, the sale of new homes fell in November for the seventh out of the last eight months. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, new home sales were 8.4 percent below their year-earlier level in November. Although mortgage rates have declined to their lowest level in several years, the price of new homes has increased with the median price now at $95,500 and the average price estimated at $116,800.

Housing starts for 1986 totaled 1,806,600 units nationally, up 3.7 percent from 1985 and the highest annual total since 1978. Except for December, however, the trend has been down in recent months with starts around the 1.6 million level on a seasonally adjusted annual rate basis in September, October and November. In December starts rose sharply, but starts jumped 50 percent in the Midwest and 17.6 percent in the Northeast because of exceptionally mild winter weather.

Decline in Apartment Construction Expected

Most housing analysts are still predicting relatively strong demand for single family homes in 1987, but are pessimistic on the prospects for apartment construction because of high vacancy rates in many areas and changes in tax law which have eliminated the tax shelter incentive to build apartments.

Thousands of Holiday Sales Jobs

Overall employment in retail trade rose 3,800 in December. Approximately 4,500 holiday sales workers were added at retail outlets but this temporary gain was partially offset by seasonal reductions at restaurants and gasoline service stations because of less tourist business.

Retail Sales Strong In December

From all reports retail sales were brisk in December. After seasonal adjustments, national retail sales climbed 4.4 percent between November and December. Part of the sharp increase resulted from the rush of consumers to make major purchases before the sales tax deduction was eliminated at the beginning of 1987. New car sales were also boosted by financing incentives in December. Automobile sales weren't the only reason for the growth in retail sales in December. Excluding autos, sales rose a strong 0.9 percent.

Moderate Growth In 1987 Retail Sales Expected

For all of 1986, retail sales rose 5.2 percent following a gain of 6.3 percent in 1985. Growth in retail sales is expected to be more moderate in 1987. Sales in 1986 were up partially because of the decline in oil prices, which left consumers with more discretionary income. In 1987, oil prices are more likely to advance than decline. Lower income tax withholding rates, however, will be a positive factor this year. And in the Puget Sound area, the 1986 expansion in aerospace will provide a positive impact on retail sales since there is a lag between hiring at Boeing and growth in the rest of the economy.

Education Jobs Down Seasonally

Government civilian employment fell 3,200 in December with 2,200 of the loss in public education. Much of the drop in educatin represented a temporary cutback in student help at colleges which were between fall and winter terms. Other reductions in government were scattered and basically seasonal such as in wild life conservation, agricultural marketing regulation, irrigation systems, etc.

Proposed Budget Cuts Jobs At McChord

President Reagan's budget for the next fiscal year proposes a reduction in the number of military aircraft stationed at McChord Air Force Base. If the proposal is accepted by Congress, it would mean 730 fewer military personnel at the base and a payroll drop of $18 million.

More Jobs At Madigan

At the nearby Madigan Army Medical Center, however, employment is expanding because of the construction of a $300 million hospital. Foundation work for the hospital is now complete and subcontractors are expected to employ between 700 and 1,000 workers at the peak of construction in 1988 and 1989. Meanwhile, Madigan is increasing its nursing staff and will continue hiring more nurses until the new hospital opens.

NATIONAL CONTEXT

Indicators Mixed

Economic indicators continued to present a mixed view of the economy at the end of 1986. The trade deficit set a record last year, but whether a turnaround is near is far from certain. The Gross National Product (GNP) increased at a meager 1.7 percent pace in the fourth quarter, but the Index of Leading Economic Indicators jumped 2.1 percent in December to post its largest gain in nearly three years.

The fourth quarter increase in the GNP, the inflation-adjusted value of the nation's output of goods and services, was well below the 2.8 percent gain in the third quarter and the 2.7 percent increase for 1985. A small decline in net exports contributed to the fourth quarter increase, but at a $155.6 billion annual rate the foreign trade deficit still represented a tremendous drain on the economy, especially the manufacturing sector. And despite the slight narrowing of the deficit in the final quarter, the total deficit for 1986 was $21.3 billion higher than the 1985 deficit of $148.5 billion.

The largest trade imbalance in 1986 was with Japan and totaled a record $58.6 billion. The next largest was for $26.4 billion with European Common market countries. Other deficits included Canada, $23.3 billion; Taiwan, $15.7 billion; and $10.7 billion with OPEC countries. Major imports in 1986 were new automobiles, $46.5 billion, and petroleum, $37.6 billion.

Leading Indicators Up Sharply

As in previous months when the Index of Leading Economic Indicators posted substantial gains, unusual factors contributed to the growth. The December increase was augmented by a strong rise in building permits which resulted partially because developers in California wanted to avoid higher permit fees to be imposed at the beginning of the year. The year-end buying surge to beat tax law changes repealing sales tax deductions and less favorable depreciation schedules is also likely to have boosted the Index. Nonetheless, eight of the leading indicators for which data were available contributed to the increase in the Index in December. Only two leading indicators were negative: unemployment claims rose, while net business formations were lower. Leading Indicators moving up included the average workweek in manufacturing, orders for consumer goods, orders for plant and equipment, building permits, sensitive material prices, stock market prices, the money supply and credit outstanding.

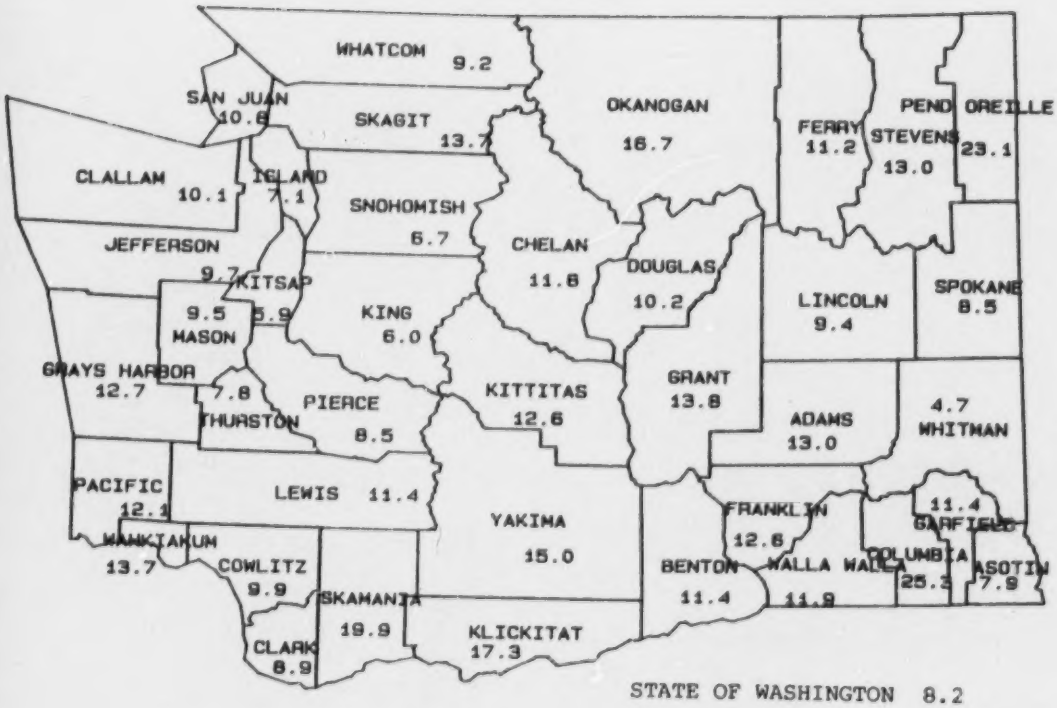
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1967=100)

	INDEXES			PERCENT CHANGE Year Ending	
	Dec. 1986	Nov. 1986	Dec. 1985	Dec. 1986	Nov. 1986
U.S. City Average	331.1	330.8	327.4	+1.1	+1.3
Seattle-Everett	N/A	325.9	N/A	N/A	+0.6

DECEMBER UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

STATE OF WASHINGTON 8.2



STATE OF WASHINGTON 8.2

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

RESIDENT LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE AND LABOR MARKET AREAS

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

DATE 1/29/87
Benchmark: 1985

	DECEMBER 1986 PRELIMINARY 1/				NOVEMBER 1986 REVISED 1/				DECEMBER 1985 REVISED			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State total	2,211,600	2,029,300	182,300	8.2	2,215,700	2,041,800	173,900	7.8	2,115,400	1,939,200	176,200	8.3
Bellingham MSA	55,300	50,200	5,100	9.2	56,300	51,500	4,800	8.5	52,900	48,100	4,800	9.1
Bremerton MSA	72,400	68,100	4,300	5.9	72,900	68,600	4,300	5.9	70,300	66,300	4,000	5.7
Olympia MSA	70,800	65,300	5,500	7.8	71,000	65,300	5,700	8.0	66,500	61,300	5,200	7.8
Seattle PMSA	996,000	934,500	61,500	6.2	994,900	933,800	61,100	6.1	935,500	876,000	59,500	6.4
King County 2/	778,200	731,200	47,000	6.0	777,600	730,700	46,900	6.0	730,000	685,400	44,600	6.1
Snohomish County 2/	217,900	203,300	14,600	6.7	217,200	203,100	14,100	6.5	205,500	190,600	14,900	7.3
Spokane MSA	165,200	151,100	14,100	8.5	165,700	152,600	13,100	7.9	161,200	147,300	13,900	8.6
Tacoma PMSA	234,000	214,000	20,000	8.5	230,700	211,000	19,700	8.5	226,500	209,500	17,000	7.5
Tri-Cities MSA	67,400	59,500	7,900	11.7	67,500	60,400	7,100	10.5	66,300	59,100	7,200	10.9
Benton County 2/	50,700	44,900	5,800	11.4	50,900	45,600	5,300	10.4	49,800	44,600	5,200	10.4
Franklin County 2/	16,700	14,600	2,100	12.6	16,600	14,800	1,800	10.8	16,500	14,500	2,000	12.1
Vancouver PMSA	104,800	95,500	9,300	8.9	105,400	96,400	9,000	8.5	101,100	92,400	8,700	8.6
Yakima MSA	82,600	70,200	12,400	15.0	83,500	72,700	10,800	12.9	80,000	67,300	12,700	15.9
Adams	6,440	5,600	840	13.0	6,420	5,640	780	12.1	6,310	5,370	940	14.9
Asotin	8,450	7,780	670	7.9	8,440	7,810	630	7.5	8,230	7,360	870	10.6
Clallam	21,160	19,020	2,140	10.1	21,350	19,410	2,140	9.9	21,120	18,480	2,640	12.5
Columbia	1,820	1,360	460	25.3	1,790	1,420	370	20.7	1,660	1,270	390	23.5
Cowlitz	33,920	30,560	3,360	9.9	34,380	30,990	3,390	9.9	34,170	29,660	4,510	13.2
Ferry	2,510	2,230	280	11.2	2,640	2,340	300	11.4	2,510	2,160	350	13.9
Garfield	1,050	930	120	11.4	1,080	960	120	11.1	1,090	950	140	12.8
Grant	23,950	20,640	3,310	13.8	24,270	21,460	2,810	11.6	22,350	19,600	2,750	12.3
Grays Harbor	25,970	22,680	3,290	12.7	26,070	22,750	3,320	12.7	25,370	22,060	3,310	13.0
Island	16,530	15,360	1,170	7.1	16,580	15,480	1,100	6.6	15,910	14,850	1,060	6.7
Jefferson	6,990	6,310	680	9.7	7,120	6,450	670	9.4	6,760	6,160	600	8.9
Kittitas	11,700	10,220	1,480	12.6	12,010	10,820	1,190	9.9	11,430	10,060	1,370	12.0
Klickitat	8,170	6,760	1,410	17.3	8,210	7,220	990	12.1	8,410	6,960	1,450	17.2
Lewis	24,040	21,290	2,750	11.4	24,430	21,580	2,850	11.7	24,210	20,960	3,250	13.4
Lincoln	4,250	3,850	400	9.4	4,340	3,970	370	8.5	4,100	3,780	320	7.8
Mason	13,530	12,240	1,290	9.5	13,930	12,770	1,160	8.3	12,590	11,500	1,090	8.7
Okanogan	13,800	11,500	2,300	16.7	14,230	12,260	1,970	13.8	13,100	10,760	2,340	17.9
Pacific	6,860	6,030	830	12.1	7,030	6,160	870	12.4	7,100	6,190	910	12.8
Pend Oreille	3,030	2,330	700	23.1	3,040	2,380	660	21.7	3,660	3,060	600	16.4
San Juan	4,000	3,570	430	10.8	4,150	3,790	360	8.7	4,510	4,140	370	8.2
Skagit	30,020	25,910	4,110	13.7	30,450	26,690	3,760	12.3	28,980	25,060	3,920	13.5
Skamania	2,330	1,860	470	19.9	2,390	2,010	380	15.9	2,390	1,820	570	23.8
Stevens	11,030	9,600	1,430	13.0	11,240	9,870	1,370	12.2	11,010	9,380	1,630	14.8
Wahkiakum	1,170	1,010	160	13.7	1,210	1,080	130	10.7	1,250	970	280	22.4
Walla Walla	23,290	20,520	2,770	11.9	23,350	21,080	2,270	9.7	23,610	20,940	2,670	11.3
Wenatchee Labor Area	39,000	34,590	4,410	11.3	39,050	35,330	3,720	9.5	36,040	31,850	4,190	11.6
Chelan County 2/	26,390	23,270	3,120	11.8	26,460	23,770	2,690	10.2	24,420	21,430	2,990	12.2
Douglas County 2/	12,610	11,320	1,290	10.2	12,600	11,560	1,040	8.3	11,620	10,430	1,190	10.2
Whitman	18,020	17,180	840	4.7	18,460	17,720	740	4.0	17,290	16,630	660	3.8

1/ Estimates provided here are for use as an economic time-series

2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

WASHINGTON STATE LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES FOR FEDERAL PROGRAM PURPOSES

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

January 29, 1987
Benchmark: 1985

	DECEMBER 1986 PRELIMINARY 1/				NOVEMBER 1986 REVISED 1/			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State total	2,214,800	2,030,900	183,900	8.3	2,224,700	2,045,700	179,000	8.0
Bellingham MSA	55,500	50,300	5,200	9.4	56,600	51,600	5,000	8.8
Bremerton MSA	72,500	68,100	4,400	6.1	73,100	68,700	4,400	6.0
Olympia MSA	70,900	65,300	5,600	7.9	71,300	65,500	5,800	8.1
Seattle PMSA	997,400	935,300	62,100	6.2	998,500	935,600	62,900	6.3
King County 2/	779,200	731,800	47,400	6.1	780,400	732,100	48,300	6.2
Snohomish County 2/	218,200	203,500	14,700	6.7	218,100	203,500	14,600	6.7
Spokane MSA	165,500	151,300	14,200	8.6	166,400	152,900	13,500	8.1
Tacoma MSA	234,300	214,100	20,200	8.6	231,600	211,400	20,200	8.7
Tri-Cities MSA	67,400	59,500	7,900	11.7	67,800	60,500	7,300	10.8
Benton County 2/	50,700	44,900	5,800	11.4	51,100	45,700	5,400	10.6
Franklin County 2/	16,700	14,600	2,100	12.6	16,700	14,800	1,900	11.4
Vancouver PMSA	105,000	95,600	9,400	9.0	105,900	96,600	9,300	8.8
Yakima MSA	82,800	70,300	12,500	15.1	83,900	72,800	11,100	13.2
Adams	6,460	5,610	850	13.2	6,450	5,650	800	12.4
Asotin	8,450	7,780	670	7.9	8,480	7,830	650	7.7
Clallam	21,190	19,040	2,150	10.1	21,660	19,450	2,210	10.2
Columbia	1,820	1,360	460	25.3	1,800	1,420	380	21.1
Cowlitz	33,980	30,590	3,390	10.0	34,540	31,050	3,490	10.1
Ferry	2,520	2,230	290	11.5	2,650	2,340	310	11.7
Garfield	1,060	940	120	11.3	1,090	960	130	11.9
Grant	23,990	20,650	3,340	13.9	24,390	21,500	2,890	11.8
Grays Harbor	26,020	22,700	3,320	12.8	26,220	22,800	3,420	13.0
Island	16,550	15,370	1,180	7.1	16,640	15,510	1,130	6.8
Jefferson	6,990	6,310	680	9.7	7,160	6,470	690	9.6
Kittitas	11,720	10,230	1,490	12.7	12,070	10,840	1,230	10.2
Klickitat	8,190	6,760	1,430	17.5	8,250	7,230	1,020	12.4
Lewis	24,080	21,310	2,770	11.5	24,560	21,620	2,940	12.0
Lincoln	4,260	3,850	410	9.6	4,360	3,980	380	8.7
Mason	13,560	12,250	1,310	9.7	13,990	12,790	1,200	8.6
Okanogan	13,830	11,510	2,320	16.8	14,300	12,280	2,020	14.1
Pacific	6,880	6,040	840	12.2	7,070	6,170	900	12.7
Pend Oreille	3,030	2,330	700	23.1	3,060	2,380	680	22.2
San Juan	4,010	3,580	430	10.7	4,180	3,800	380	9.1
Skagit	30,080	25,930	4,150	13.8	30,610	26,740	3,870	12.6
Skamania	2,370	1,900	470	19.8	2,400	2,010	390	16.3
Stevens	11,060	9,610	1,450	13.1	11,290	9,890	1,400	12.4
Wahkiakum	1,170	1,010	160	13.7	1,220	1,090	130	10.7
Walla Walla	23,330	20,540	2,790	12.0	23,460	21,120	2,340	10.0
Wenatchee Labor Area	39,070	34,620	4,450	11.4	39,230	35,400	3,830	9.8
Chelan County 2/	26,440	23,290	3,150	11.9	26,580	23,810	2,770	10.4
Douglas County 2/	12,630	11,330	1,300	10.3	12,660	11,590	1,070	8.5
Whitman	18,040	17,200	840	4.7	18,510	17,750	760	4.1

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Data are not comparable with estimates made in previous years.
2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY WORKERS IN WASHINGTON STATE, PLACE OF WORK 1/

(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	Dec. 1986 (Prel.)	Nov. 1986 (Rev.)	Dec. 1985 (Rev.)	Nov. 1985 (Rev.)	Numerical Change: Nov. 86 to Dec. 86	Numerical Change: Dec. 85 to Dec. 86
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY.	1,779.7	1,784.3	1,735.8	1,738.9	-4.6	+43.9
TOTAL MANUFACTURING.....	295.5	298.1	294.8	297.1	-2.6	+0.7
Durable Goods.....	207.8	209.1	206.6	207.1	-1.3	+1.2
Lumber & Wood Products....	36.3	36.6	36.4	37.6	-0.3	-0.1
Furniture & Fixtures.....	3.8	4.0	3.8	3.9	-0.2	0.0
Stone Clay & Glass Prod...	6.0	6.0	6.3	6.5	0.0	-0.3
Primary Metal Industries..	11.8	11.9	12.5	12.5	-0.1	-0.7
Aluminum Prod.& Proc.....	7.8	7.9	8.4	8.4	-0.1	-0.6
Fabricated Metal Prod.....	9.1	9.5	9.6	9.8	-0.4	-0.5
Machinery.....	26.9	26.9	30.3	29.7	0.0	-3.4
Machinery exc. Elect.....	15.0 3/	14.9 3/	18.0	17.6 3/	+0.1	-3.0
Electrical & Electronic..	11.9	12.0	12.3	12.1	-0.1	-0.4
Transportation Equipment..	99.5	99.9	92.8	92.2	-0.4	+6.7
Aerospace.....	87.5	87.5	79.9	79.7	0.0	+7.6
Other Transp. Equip.....	12.0 3/	12.4	12.9	12.5	-0.4	-0.9
Instruments & Rel. Prod...	9.7	9.6	10.6	10.6	+0.1	-0.9
Misc. Manufacturing Ind...	4.7	4.7	4.3	4.3	0.0	+0.4
Nondurable Goods.....	87.7	89.0	88.2	90.0	-1.3	-0.5
Food & Kindred Products...	28.4	29.9	28.9	30.7	-1.5	-0.5
Canned & Preserved Foods.	9.3	10.9	9.5	11.3	-1.6	-0.2
Apparel & Other Text.Prod.	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.3	0.0	-0.1
Paper & Allied Products...	16.4	16.3	16.2	16.1	+0.1	+0.2
Printing & Publishing.....	17.8	17.7	17.7	17.7	+0.1	+0.1
Chemicals & Allied Prod...	11.3	11.3	11.7	11.7	0.0	-0.4
Other Nondurable Goods 2/.	7.6	7.6	7.4	7.5	0.0	+0.2
MINING & QUARRYING.....	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.9	0.0	-0.1
CONSTRUCTION.....	82.0	84.9	78.5	81.5	-2.9	+3.5
TRANS.& PUBLIC UTILITIES....	95.5 3/	95.8	95.2	95.2	-0.3	+0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE....	447.5	444.6	437.0	433.8	+2.9	+10.5
Wholesale Trade.....	108.6	109.5	105.9	106.7	-0.9	+2.7
Retail Trade.....	338.9	335.1	331.1	327.1	+3.8	+7.8
FIN. INS. & REAL ESTATE.....	105.5	105.2	100.8	100.6	+0.3	+4.7
SERVICES.....	398.0	396.8	378.8	376.7	+1.2	+19.2
Health Services	123.2	122.4	118.3	118.3	+0.8	+4.9
GOVERNMENT.....	353.0	356.2	347.9	351.1	-3.2	+5.1
Federal.....	68.6	68.5	69.2	69.7	+0.1	-0.6
State & Local.....	284.4	287.7	278.7	281.4	-3.3	+5.7
Education.....	153.8	156.0	150.7	152.4	-2.2	+3.1
(WORKERS IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES).....	1.0	0.4	0.0	0.1	+0.6	+1.0

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during pay period including the 12th of the month.

2/ Includes textile mill products, rubber and miscellaneous plastic products, petroleum refining and related products, and leather products.

3/ Excludes workers involved in labor-management disputes.

ESTIMATED AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING AND OF NONSUPERVISORY WORKERS IN NONMANUFACTURING ACTTIVITIES, STATE OF WASHINGTON

	December 1986 Production Workers/ Nonsupervisory Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		Dec-86	Nov-86	Dec-85	Dec-86	Nov-86	Dec-85	Dec-86	Nov-86	Dec-85
TOTAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES*	178,200	$476.37	$468.45	$473.21	40.2	39.8	39.9	$11.85	$11.77	$11.86
SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Lumber and Wood Products	31,900	$419.65	$401.68	$445.79	38.5	37.4	38.2	$10.90	$10.74	$11.67
Primary Metal Industries	9,100	$548.68	$527.88	$548.27	42.5	40.7	42.7	$12.91	$12.97	$12.84
Fabricated Metal Products	6,700	$453.66	$442.73	$457.73	39.9	38.7	40.4	$11.37	$11.44	$11.33
**Machinery	15,200	$388.97	$390.42	$392.28	40.1	40.5	40.4	$9.70	$9.64	$9.71
Food and Kindred Products	20,700	$370.74	$347.26	$372.24	37.6	35.8	38.1	$9.86	$9.70	$9.77
Chemical and Allied Products	5,100	$619.63	$622.81	$590.73	43.0	42.6	40.6	$14.41	$14.62	$14.55
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Construction	59,800	$582.54	$574.95	$597.63	36.8	35.8	36.8	$15.83	$16.06	$16.24
Wholesale and Retail Trade (does not include eating and drinking establishments)	282,100	$316.71	$320.20	$327.48	33.8	34.1	35.1	$9.37	$9.39	$9.33

* Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not fully reflect the official US Bureau of Labor Statistics definition of "wages." While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official US Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earning data.

** Affected by labor-management disputes

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